United Nations S/2002/1354

Security Council

Distr.: General
12 December 2002
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 9 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the daily report for 9 December 2002 on the activities of the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

02-73884 (E) 171202 181202

Annex to the letter dated 9 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Daily report on the activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams in Iraq

Daily activity report for 9 December 2002

I

An UNMOVIC team consisting of 15 inspectors and led by Mr. William Jolley set out from its base at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 0825 hours. At 0930 hours it arrived at the site of the chlorine plant and the phenol plant in Fallujah, some 70 kilometres north of Baghdad. Both plants belong to the Tariq State Enterprise, one of the entities of the Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC). On arrival, the team divided into two groups.

One group met with the managers of the chlorine and phenol plants and the enterprise liaison officer with the National Monitoring Directorate (NMD). It asked about the activities undertaken by the two plants between December 1998 and the present. It was told that the chlorine plant had suspended operations in August 2002 owing to a shortage of spare parts. The output of the phenol plant fluctuates because of a boiler malfunction. (Phenol is obtained from petroleum derivatives and is used in many civilian industries and in such products as pharmaceuticals and agricultural pesticides.) Those in charge of the two plants also explained that changes had been made to the camera-based monitoring systems and that they and the air-sampling boxes had been placed in the enterprise stores for safekeeping after the United States and British aggression against Iraq of 16 to 20 December 1998. The team was informed that all of the changes that had been made with regard to the movement of equipment to and from the two sites had been described in the semi-annual declarations.

The other group toured the two plants in order to check tagged equipment. It also took radiometric and chemical readings using hand-held devices.

The team, comprising both groups, concluded its task at 1320 hours and arrived back at its base at the Canal Hotel at 1435 hours.

II

There were two IAEA teams.

One team, consisting of 18 inspectors and led by Mr. Philip Caulfield, set out from the Canal Hotel at 0840 hours. At 0905 hours it reached the site of the Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission (IAEC) at Tuwaythah, south of Baghdad, and divided into three groups.

One group inspected the two stores containing nuclear materials. It inventoried the nuclear materials there, inventoried and weighed the containers, used counters to establish degrees of enrichment for each container, measured the radioactivity of the containers and made a gamma-ray spectrum analysis using hand-held devices in order to ascertain the quality and quantity of the nuclear

materials in the containers. The group concluded its work, sealed the doors of the two stores and left the site at 1520 hours.

The second group took samples of water from the IAEC heavy-water station and soil samples from the area around the station. It also took samples of water and soil from the Tigris River at a location outside the immediate vicinity of the IAEC site.

The third group checked the semi-annual declarations and divided into sub-groups to conduct a radiometric survey, using hand-held devices, of all the IAEC buildings and the major internal roadways so as to detect any alleged radioactivity. It also took swab samples of all the contents of the stores and the equipment they contained in order to verify that there was no radioactivity. It also inspected the store of radioactive sources and checked the Agency seals on the wells in which the sources were stored. Finally, it made a tour that included the background radiation section, the physics and materials research department, the IAEC sites that had been destroyed (the 17 Tammuz reactor and the fuel processing division), the heavy-water treatment station and the diesel engine station near the medical preparations building.

The aforesaid groups finished their work one by one, and the last to do so left the IAEC complex at 1545 hours and reached the Canal Hotel at 1615 hours.

The second IAEA team, consisting of six inspectors and led by Mr. Robert Kelley, set out from its base at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 0845 hours. At 0945 hours it arrived at the Qa`qa State Enterprise, located some 30 kilometres south-west of Baghdad.

1. On arrival at the site the team met with the general manager of the enterprise and its NMD liaison officer and asked about enterprise activities and plants.

2. The team visited some of the plants at the enterprise, the explosive materials destruction site and the research and development division. It photographed some of the plant assets.

3. It took swab samples from some locations.

4. It took an 81-millimetre rocket casing as a specimen.

The team finished its work and left the site at 1540 hours, and it reached the Canal Hotel at 1626 hours.

III

On the evening of 9 December 2002, two groups from the Baghdad Ongoing Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Centre (BOMVIC) met with NMD officials to consider communications equipment requirements and the basing and deployment of the UNMOVIC helicopter group. The Iraqi side agreed to provide the necessary facilities.

IV

Remarks

1. The chlorine and phenol plants at Fallujah, the IAEC site at Tuwaythah and the site of the Qa'qa enterprise that were visited by the inspection teams are sites that were alleged, in the report of British Prime Minister Tony Blair and the report of the United States Department of State, to be manufacturing weapons of mass destruction.

2. The United States and the United Kingdom have accused Iraq of using aluminium tubes to fabricate centrifuges for uranium enrichment. The inspection team acquainted itself with the true state of affairs, namely that these aluminium tubes are being used as 81-millimetre rocket casings.